

LAKE CENTRAL SCHOOL CORPORATION
Lake Central Freshmen Center – LGI Room
8410 Wicker Avenue, St. John, Indiana 46373
Monday, February 16, 2015 // 7:30 p.m.

A meeting of the Board of School Trustees of the Lake Central School Corporation was held in the Lake Central Freshmen Center LGI Room, 8410 Wicker Avenue, St. John, IN on February 16, 2015. The meeting began at 7:35 p.m.

Board Members Present

Don Bacso, President
 John DeVries, Secretary
 Sandy Lessentine, Member
 Janice Malchow, Member
 Howard Marshall, Vice-President

Board Members Not Present

Administration Present

Sarah Castaneda, Director of Secondary Education
 Al Gandolfi, Assistant Superintendent
 Rob James, Director of Business Services
 Bill Ledyard, Director of Facilities
 Theresa Schoon, Director of Primary Education
 Dr. Lawrence Veracco, Superintendent

Administration Not Present

<u>BOARD MEETING MINUTES</u> <u>Monday, February 16, 2015</u>	
<i>All Motions Were Passed With a 5-0 Vote Unless Otherwise Indicated</i>	
I.	Call to Order – <i>Don Bacso</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meeting was called to order by Board President Don Bacso.
II.	Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag – <i>Don Bacso</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Don Bacso.
III.	Verification of Receipt and Review of Board Packet – <i>Mr. Bacso</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has each member successfully received the electronic version of tonight’s board agenda, along with the individual supporting documents, reviewed them, and directed any questions or corrections to Dr. Veracco, prior to this meeting? Bacso – Yes DeVries - Yes Lessentine - Yes Malchow – Yes Marshall - Yes
IV.	Agenda: Approval, Deletions, Additions - <i>Dr. Veracco</i> - Action Required <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under Sarah Castaneda’s section, an addition to the Field Trips. • Janice Malchow moved to approve the Revised Agenda. Howard Marshall seconded the motion. Motion carried.
V.	Correspondence – <i>John DeVries</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was no correspondence.

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VI.	<p>Liaison Committee Updates - <i>Don Bacso</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Lake Joint Managing Board – <i>Howard Marshall</i> • Building and Renovation Committee- <i>Howard Marshall and John DeVries</i> • Personnel Interview Committee – <i>Howard Marshall</i> • Legislative Committee – <i>Janice Malchow</i> • Lake Central Education Foundation – <i>Janice Malchow</i> • Wellness Committee – <i>Sandy Lessentine</i> • Dollars for Scholars – <i>Sandy Lessentine</i> • Dyer Redevelopment Committee – <i>Janice Malchow</i> • St. John Redevelopment Committee – <i>John DeVries</i> • Schererville Redevelopment Committee – <i>Sandy Lessentine</i> • Schererville Ethics Committee – <i>Sandy Lessentine</i>
VII.	<p>Official School Board Business Topics: Consent Agenda – <i>Dr. Veracco</i> – Action Required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Howard Marshall moved to approve the Consent Agenda. John DeVries seconded the motion. Motion carried.
A.	<p>Approval of Minutes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Session Minutes 2-2-15 • Regular Meeting Minutes 2-2-15
B.	<p>Approval of Claims, Payroll and Extracurricular Expenditures</p>
VIII.	<p>Official School Board Business Topics: Regular Agenda - <i>Don Bacso</i></p>
A.	<p>Superintendent – <i>Dr. Veracco</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recognitions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Lake Central High School Theatre <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The following Lake Central Theatre students were recognized for their accomplishments at the Indiana Thespians State Conference: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Brett Balicki – 11th – Excellence Ribbon in Duet Acting Experienced - Brittany Busby – 11th - Excellence Ribbon in Duet Acting Experienced - Walter Aleksic – 10th – Excellence Ribbon in Short Film - Jackson DeLisle – 11th - Excellence Ribbon in Short Film - Stephanie O’Drobinak – 10th - Excellence Ribbon in Short Film - Martha Mapes – 11th – Best of State in Short Film - Elise Bereolos – 11th – Excellence Ribbon in Solo Musical Theatre Novice - Brandi Stockton-Fresso - 12th – Tech Challenge 4th Place Knot Tying and Best of State in Scenic Design - Aidan McCambridge – 12th – Tech Challenger 3rd Place Props Quick Change - Sponsor: Ray Palasz b. Kahler Spell Bowl <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The following Kahler Spell Bowl students placed 4th at State Spell Bowl Championship in Lafayette in November: Christina Aliaga, Michael Biancardi, Jed Burgos, Marti Davis, Justice Dobson, Arinah Karim, Elana Lippe, Katelyn Macknyk, Zoe Miller, Viraj Patel, Aneesh Poddutur, Maddie Rigg, Lexi Rigg, Vanessa White. Coaches: Tammy Rush and Laurie Rosine

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2. Professional Leave Request – **Action Required**

- Howard Marshall moved to approve the professional leave request of Larry Veracco and Rob James to attend IAPSS/IASBO/IASP/ISTA Rally at the Statehouse on February 16th. Janice Malchow seconded the motion. Motion carried.

3. Summary of Ritz/Costerison/Coopman Legislative Update

Let's Be Fair to All Children in Indiana
By the NWI Superintendent's Study Council

The current executive and legislative leadership in Indiana seems to be continuing a pattern of adjusting the rules for different types of schools, namely charter schools and private schools, without ever explaining or justifying the rationale for those differences.

In his proposed budget Governor Pence expressed his belief that charter schools should get an extra \$1500 per child so their school can better meet the needs of their students. Also in the Governor's proposed budget – local public schools are projected to receive less than an additional \$100 per child. Unlike charter schools that pick and choose who they accept; local community public schools accept all children. What is the rationale for the disparate difference in state tuition support for Indiana's school aged children?

Senate Bill 470 (SB470) recently passed out of the Senate Education Committee. This proposal would allow private schools receiving vouchers to ignore the state mandated ISTEP+ assessment and instead select "another nationally recognized and norm referenced assessment" of their choice. If our state's executive and legislative leadership consider the current ISTEP+ assessments to be too burdensome, ineffective, or inappropriate then shouldn't the 'option' to select "another nationally recognized and norm referenced assessment" apply to ALL local public schools as well?

The bill further directs the State Board of Education to develop a separate A-F grading system for those schools that accept vouchers and whose students would be taking the alternate assessments. Those who testified in favor of this bill before the Senate Education committee included several parents who denounced the excessive testing currently required by the ISTEP+ testing program. They do not want their private school children to be subjected to the excessive testing. Did the seven senators who voted to move this legislation forward support flexibility in selecting assessments only for students in private schools but not for students in public schools? If at the end of this legislative session SB 470 becomes public policy, what kind of comparisons will our state's public policy leaders make between different types of schools that operate under different rules and use different assessments to measure student growth and achievement?

During a recent meeting with NWI public school superintendents and a local legislator, one participant asked, "If requiring a licensed school counselor in every public elementary school was such a good idea (SB 277), why did the legislation explicitly state that the requirement would not apply to public charter schools or parochial schools?" The legislator acknowledged that good ideas for helping children and improving schools should be required of all schools. Different rules – different types of schools – is there a pattern here?

If anyone still doubts that Governor Pence, many of the current leaders of the General Assembly, and the State Board of Education favor private schools over public schools in Indiana's competitive marketplace of school choice, look at the examples provided 1. More funding; 2. Choice of nationally recognized and norm referenced assessments; and 3. The proposed legislation re: elementary counselors. These are illustrations of unequal treatment proposed for charter and private schools versus local community public schools.

Indiana citizens who believe in fair and equitable governance and the support of their community's public schools must make the time to share their feelings with their elected officials. Proposed legislation in this session of the General Assembly that is clearly biased against the vast majority of children and their local public schools in our state must be changed or eliminated. The children who attend Indiana's community public schools deserve better. It is time for parents and patrons to speak to their local legislators about what is and has been happening to their local community public schools. The result of our state government's desire to privatize education is that school-aged children in this state are being served differently. Let's be fair to ALL children in Indiana and do whatever is necessary to protect our local public schools!

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	4. 2015 Times Editorial Board Update
B.	<p>Assistant Superintendent / Personnel – <i>Al Gandolfi</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Personnel Recommendations – Action Required <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Janice Malchow moved to approve the Personnel Recommendations John DeVries seconded the motion. Motion carried.
C.	<p>Director of Primary Education – <i>Theresa Schoon</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Professional Leave Requests – Action Required <ul style="list-style-type: none"> John DeVries moved to approve the Professional Leave Requests of Cassandra Cruz, Melissa Dillard, Marie Higgins and Michelle Fertig. Sandy Lessentine seconded the motion. Motion carried. Field Trip Requests – Action Required <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Howard Marshall moved to approve the Field Trip Request of Katherine Panagakis-Laurisch. Sandy Lessentine seconded the motion. Motion carried.
D.	<p>Director of Secondary Education – <i>Sarah Castaneda</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Professional Leave Requests – Action Required <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Howard Marshall moved to approve the Field Trip Requests of Barb Kepchar, Rebecca Gromala, Cassi Linko, Valerie Savage, Mary Rebeym Deborah Irwin, Patricia Kalina, Denise Snyder, Kim Beach, Mary Ann Medved, Todd Smolinski, Abigail Homans, Alyssa Rotundi, Tiffany Kelley, Melissa Gonella, Christine Gaines, Michelle Jen, Cindy Schuldt, Barbara Tharp, Maureen Yaeger, Rachel Gray, Terri Budlove, Marty Freeman, Todd Iwema, Christian Flores (2), Louise Tallent, Erin Novak, Adam Tenbarga and Dan Runyan. John DeVries seconded the motion. Motion carried. Field Trip Requests – Action Required <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Howard Marshall moved to approve the Field Trip Requests of Maureen Yaeger, Rachel Gray, Todd Iwema, Ryan Alb and Mark Urban. Janice Malchow seconded the motion. Motion carried.
E.	<p>Director of Facilities – <i>Bill Ledyard</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> LCHS Project Safety Summary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Howard Marshall commented that the safety summary shows that the construction project is teamwork at its best. Award and execute Change Order #014 to Larsen-Danielson Construction Co., for LCHS Phase III - Bid Package #4 – GC Building Shell & Concrete Slabs - Action Required <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Janice Malchow moved to Award and execute Change Order #014 to Larsen-Danielson Construction Co., for LCHS Phase III - Bid Package #4 – GC Building Shell & Concrete Slabs. Sandy Lessentine seconded the motion. Motion carried. Award and execute Change Order #014 to Barton Malow Company, for LCHS Phase III - Bid Package #5 – GC Building Interiors - Action Required <ul style="list-style-type: none"> John DeVries moved to award and execute Change Order #014 to Barton Malow Company, for LCHS Phase III - Bid Package #5 – GC Building Interiors. Sandy Lessentine seconded the motion. Motion carried. Award and execute Change Order #016 to Mechanical Inc., for LCHS Phase III - Bid Package #9 – HVAC - Action Required

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Janice Malchow moved to award and execute Change Order #016 to Mechanical Inc., for LCHS Phase III - Bid Package #9 – HVAC. Sandy Lessentine seconded the motion. Motion carried. <p>5. Award and execute Change Order #013 to Gough Inc., for LCHS Phase III - Bid Package #12 – Athletic Fields - Action Required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John DeVries moved to award and execute Change Order #013 to Gough Inc., for LCHS Phase III - Bid Package #12 – Athletic Fields. Howard Marshall seconded the motion. Motion carried. <p>6. Award and execute Change Order #014 to Gough Inc., for LCHS Phase III - Bid Package #12 – Athletic Fields - Action Required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Janice Malchow moved to award and execute Change Order #014 to Gough Inc., for LCHS Phase III - Bid Package #12 – Athletic Fields. Sandy Lessentine seconded the motion. Motion carried. <p>7. LCHS Project Update – Update</p>
F.	<p>Director of Business Services – <i>Rob James</i></p> <p>1. Donations – Action Required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bibich Elementary School received a donation of \$134.61 from a parent through the Wells Fargo Matching Gifts Program. • The Clark Middle School 8th Grade Dance Team has received a monetary donation in the amount of \$100.00 from Michelle Haluska. • The Tri-Town Band Booster have donated two Eastman tubas to the bands at Clark Middle School. The tubas are in great condition and have an estimated value of \$1,500. • Janice Malchow moved to approve all donations. Sandy Lessentine seconded the motion. Motion carried.
IX.	<p>Public Comments - <i>Don Bacso</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were no public comments.
X.	<p>Board Comments and Consideration of Future Agenda Items - <i>Don Bacso</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandy Lessentine: Schererville Chamber of Commerce will be holding their Fashion Show which benefits our schools in Schererville. • John DeVries: Congratulations to our Varsity Girls Basketball Team on their Sectionals victory. Asked what the results were of the recent cheerleading competition. (Answer: the team placed 2nd at Nationals.) • Janice Malchow: So many exciting things going on right now for Lake Central - Cheerleading, Science Olympiad, Dance Competition, Winter Guard, Fundraisers, Basketball, and tonight’s Student Recognitions. The professionalism and way the students carried themselves while at the Dance Competition this weekend, and the level of excellence out there on the floor by the Lake Central Students was amazing. Congratulations to everyone. • Howard Marshall: Regarding our student athletes and participants: Lake Central students handle themselves with true sportsmanship. Compliments go out to students, coaching staff and teachers. Lake Central is doing a wonderful job.
XI.	<p>Board Calendar of Future Activities – <i>Dr. Veracco</i></p>
XII.	<p>Adjournment – <i>Don Bacso</i> – Action Required</p>

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- Janice Malchow moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 a.m. Howard Marshall seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Minutes of the February 16, 2015 School Board Meeting were approved and adopted by the Board of School Trustees at the March 2, 2014 School Board Meeting.

ATTEST:

Don Bacso, President

John DeVries, Secretary

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